

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Claims 11 and 31 have been amended herein and claims 15 and 35 have been cancelled. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A cathode substrate for a field emission display, comprising:  
a substrate;  
a cap layer disposed on the substrate, the cap layer comprising:

a cap material layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of silicon nitride, silicon carbide, and diamond-like carbon; and  
an anti-reflective coating overlying the cap material layer;

a conductive layer overlying the cap layer; and  
an array of emitter tips everlying protruding from the conductive layer.

12. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 11, wherein the substrate is a soda-lime glass.

13. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 11, wherein the cap layer is deposited on said substrate by plasma enhanced, chemical vapor deposition.

14. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 11, wherein the cap layer has a thickness in the range of 0.1 to 0.5 microns.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 11, wherein the substrate is plastics material.

17. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 11, wherein the substrate is a non-conductive material.

18. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 11, wherein the substrate is leached prior to deposition of the cap layer.

19-30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A cathode substrate for a field emission display, comprising:

a substrate;

a cap layer disposed on said substrate, wherein the cap layer comprises:

a cap material layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of silicon nitride, silicon carbide, and diamond-like carbon; and

a light blocking layer overlying the cap material layer;

a conductive layer directly overlying the cap layer; and

an array of emitter tips overlying the cap layer protruding from the conductive layer.

32. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 31, wherein the substrate is a soda-lime glass.

33. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 31, wherein the cap layer is deposited on the substrate by plasma enhanced, chemical vapor deposition.

34. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 31, wherein the cap layer has a thickness in the range of 0.1 to 0.5 microns.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 31, wherein the substrate comprises a plastics material.

37. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 31, wherein the substrate is a non-conductive material.

38. (Previously Presented) The cathode substrate according to claim 31, wherein the substrate is leached prior to deposition of the cap layer.

39-46. (Cancelled)